

### In The Claims

What is claimed is:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A process for preparation of 10-oxo-10, 11-dihydro-5H-dibenz [b,f] azepine-5-carboxamide (oxcarbazepine) via intermediate 10-methoxy-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepine-5-carbonyl chloride, comprising the following steps:

- a) Preparation of an intermediate 10-methoxy-5H-dibenz[b,f] azepine-5-carbonyl chloride, from 10-methoxyiminostillbene using bis (trichloromethyl) carbonate (BTC) triphosgene with organic base / organic solvent;
- b) Conversion of above intermediate to 10-methoxy-5H-dibenz[b,f] azepine-5-carboxamide using ammonia and with suitable solvent;
- c) Formation of oxcarbazepine from step (b) using Bronsted acid in an appropriate organic solvent at a suitable temperature between 25- 80°C. preferably at 50 to 70 °C; and;
- d) Isolation using organic solvent.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein at step (a) organic base is slowly added to the solution for a period of 3-24 hrs, maintaining a temperature at 10°C, after completion of reaction, a resultant and mixture is allowed to rise to room temperature, followed by separation of organic layer, and distilled to get crude intermediate, and purified using organic solvent.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 1-~~&~~2, wherein the ammonia gas is purged till the reaction completion, distilled the solvent, added water, followed by cooling at room temperature to isolate intermediate.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 1~~the above~~ claims, wherein the solvent selected is from the group consisting of: chlorinated aliphatic hydrocarbons solvent, /aromatic hydrocarbons solvent, and ~~or~~ aprotic solvent, in the preparation of carbonyl chloride,

Claim 5 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 4, wherein chlorinated aliphatic solvents are selected from the group consisting of:~~such as~~ methylene dichloride, chloroform, ethylene dichloride, 1,1,1,- trichloroethane, and trichloroethylene.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 4, wherein the solvent aromatic hydrocarbons are selected from the group consisting of toluene, xylene, and chlorobenzene.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 4, wherein the aprotic solvents are selected from the group consisting of: Dimethyl formamide, Dimethyl acetamide, N-methyl pyrrolidine, and acetonitrile.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 1 & ~~2~~ wherein the organic base is selected from the group consisting of aliphatic amines and aromatic tertiary amines.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 1~~above claims~~, wherein the molar ratio of 10-methoxy iminostilbene to BTC is 1:0.34 - 0.5, and the molar ratio with base is 1:1-1.5.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 9, wherein the solvent is selected from the group consisting of: acetone, methyl cellulose, methanol, ethanol, isopropyl alcohol, and dimethylformamide.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the Bronsted acid is selected from the group consisting of: p-toluene sulfonic acid and cationic resins.

Claim 12 (new): A process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the ammonia gas is purged till the reaction completion, distilled the solvent, added water, followed by cooling at room temperature to isolate intermediate.

Claim 13 (new): A process as claimed in claim 2 wherein the organic base is selected from the group consisting of aliphatic amines and aromatic tertiary amines.